



Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Environmental Award Nominations Sought *Program recognizes environmental leaders*

Frankfort, Ky. (June 4, 2014) —The Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (DEP) is soliciting nominations for the 2014 Environmental Excellence Awards. These awards were established to recognize the environmental leadership efforts and activities of individuals, businesses and organizations in the state. The DEP awards are in their fifth year and coordinated by the Division of Compliance Assistance to support the mission of recognizing and encouraging environmental stewardship in Kentucky.

"The Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection is pleased to sponsor the Environmental Excellence Awards in an effort to spotlight some of the environmental leaders in the Commonwealth each year," said R. Bruce Scott, DEP commissioner. "Through the positive examples provided by the award winners, others are inspired to protect Kentucky's environment and conserve our precious resources."

The awards include three Environmental Pacesetter awards to recognize exemplary efforts to protect the environment, conserve resources and set an example of environmental stewardship. The Community Environmental Luminary Award highlights achievements in community-based environmental education and outreach. The Resource Caretaker Award focuses on efforts to conserve Kentucky's resources. The KY EXCEL Champion Award recognizes a KY EXCEL member who has shown leadership in promoting positive environmental behaviors and the KY EXCEL program.

Launched by DEP in 2006, KY EXCEL is a voluntary environmental leadership program that recognizes efforts to improve and protect Kentucky's environment above and beyond the

state's environmental requirements and is open to any individual, organization, community or business.

Award nominations are being accepted until close of business on July 31, 2014. Winners will be notified by early September and invited to the awards presentation scheduled during this year's Governor's Conference on Energy and the Environment, which will be conducted in the fall. Interested applicants can view past award winners at <http://tinyurl.com/k6vttqj>.

For more information about the awards program, KY EXCEL and to access a nomination form, visit <http://dca.ky.gov/> or call the Division of Compliance Assistance toll-free at 800-926-8111.

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